it was inaugurated in the Council on the 17th day after the introduction in this Council, the Hon'ble Member wanted to report and we were given only 5 days notice. A Bill which was to be reported in 3 months the Hon'ble Member wanted to get it passed within 17 days and that too with a notice of 5 days. Will the Government at least consider the point of convening an additional meeting of this Council, as is done in Travancore, in the near future, the measure being so very important? At least promulgate it under the emergency powers or at least convene an additional meeting so that we may pass it expeditiously.

Mr. President.—I do not think any undertaking can be given on that point.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Have not the Government had occasion to know about this from yesterday's Agenda. It has not sprung upon them as a surprise.

Mr. President.—The Government have done all that it can possibly do. It has now considerably advanced and reached the stage of the appointment of the select committee.

Irregularities in State Museum—action taken regarding them.

315. Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the present Honorary Superintendent of the State Museum was found responsible for any amount due to the credit sales of the Museum during his term of office;

(b) if so, what that amount is;

(c) whether any action has been taken to recover the same from him;

(d) whether any other similar irregularities were found out in the Museum accounts;

(e) what is the nature and extent of such irregularities, if any;

(f) what action has been taken by the Government with regard to all or any of them?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—(a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 1,029—15—9.

(c) The amount was recovered from the parties concerned and hence it was not necessary to recover the same from the Honorary Superintendent.

(d) Some other irregularities were found.

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(e) The following are the charges framed against the clerk E. Paul who was responsible for the irregularities.

(1) That he forged the signature of the Honorary Superintendent on the letter to the Comptroller of Accounts asking for the return of the 27 detailed bills.

(2) That having secured the return of these detailed bills he kept them with him instead of returning them to the Comptroller of Accounts.

(3) That he recorded on several abstract bills that no detailed bills were pending submission, though many such bills were pending.

(4) That he wrongly noted in several abstract bills the budget allotment and the expenditure up-to-date.

(5) That on the 1st of Makaram the pay of the garden establishment for Dhanu was drawn twice on two bills.

(f) The clerk concerned was suspended for six months, and then transferred from the Museum.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is it a fact that it is seen from the accounts that a lion which was dead some years ago is being fed even now?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—I want notice.

Mr. President.—Is it a daily feeding or the annual sradham or any other ceremony?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—It is seen from the accounts that are maintained that this lion is fed. This is also one of the irregularities.

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—I want notice.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Did the Government find the forgery proved against the clerk?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—No.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Inasmuch as there are so many irregularities do the Government contemplate to take any action against the Superintendent?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—Not at present.

Irrecoverable amounts written off from Museum Accounts.

316. Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

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